

**Assembly Script for
Dog Days (2013)
by Karen English**

Carlotta Monologue – In *Dog Days*, we learn how Gavin feels about the little dog he has to walk, and how his feelings change. You could give a sneak peek to the novel without giving away too much of the plot by having the little dog, Carlotta, do a monologue about how she feels about coming to Gavin’s house.

Carlotta walks on stage. She should have a huge pink bow and some fancy, sparkly accessories. She can give a little yappy bark to let the audience know that she is a dog.

On the stage, have some evidence that Gavin lives in this house – a skateboard and helmet, a backpack, a video game console, a basketball, and a small table with a box of crackers and a jar of grape jelly.

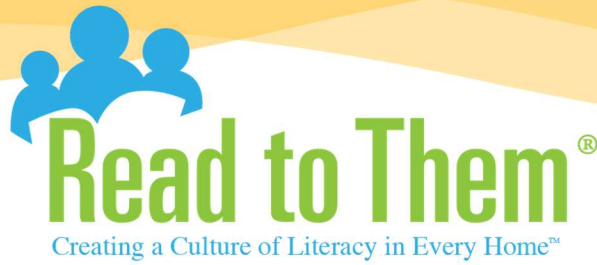
Carlotta: *(looking around)* Well, I guess this is it. We are leaving our nice, quiet house filled with nice, quiet things. We are leaving the place where **I** am the most important member of the family, where **I** am the center of attention, where **I** am the only one that matters. To come...here.

Carlotta sniffs and seem inconsolable. So much drama.

Carlotta: I mean, look around. There is all this *(shudders)* kid stuff. And, you know what comes with kid stuff – a KID. Now, I have heard that that other dogs like children. Other dogs even play with those small humans. *(another shudder)* They run around and fetch and chase and even wrestle! *(shakes head in disgust)* Why I have even heard of dogs that **sleep** with the drooling, smelly, disgusting little monsters. That is just ridiculous.

And my, oh my – they are SO noisy! I mean, I can kick up a ruckus, but it is dignified barking. *(Bark a few times)* Children make all of that awful mixed-up racket – talking, laughing, crying, singing, whining. Who can stand it?

And, you know when there is are children around, well they just get all of the attention. They have so many needs! They need to be fed, entertained, scolded. They need homework checked and lunches packed. With children soaking up all the attention, there won’t be any left for little old me. I



prefer a more dignified existence where I am constantly the center of attention.

Well, don't you worry. I have plenty of ways to get my revenge. I will show that smelly, noisy, troublesome child who is boss around here. He thinks walking me is going to be – well, a walk in the park. But, is he ever in for a surprise!

Aunt Myrtle rushes on stage, holding a Chew-Chew (see picture on page 59) and a doggie poop bag. She looks very flustered.

Aunt Myrtle: Carlotta! Carlotta! Oh there you are my little sweetie-pie. I have been looking everywhere for you! Come along now. It is time for your walk so you can do your business! My little nephew is ready for the maiden voyage.

Carlotta: Ah – so the fun begins. Time to show this **child** who is boss.

Librarian: If you want to learn more about Carlotta and her big adventures, join us as we read *Dog Days*!